



UNITED STATES  
PATENT AND  
TRADEMARK OFFICE

JUL 17 2003

UNDER SECRETARY OF COMMERCE FOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY  
AND DIRECTOR OF THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
PO BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450  
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#29

In re Application of  
Patrick L. Ahl et al  
Serial No.: 09/398,934  
Filed: September 1, 1999  
Attorney Docket No.: 31839-150675

: PETITION DECISION TO RESTART  
: PERIOD FOR REPLY

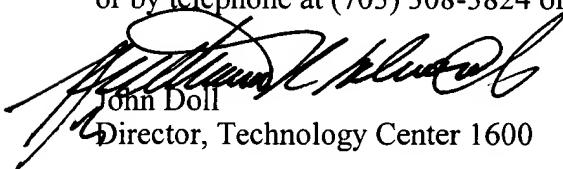
This is in response to applicant's petition under 37 CFR § 1.181, filed May 9, 2003, requesting restarting of the period for reply.

A review of the file history shows the examiner mailed an *ex parte Quayle* Office action to applicants on February 26, 2003, setting a two month shortened statutory period for reply. The Office action was inadvertently mailed to the previous attorney of record. Applicants state that they did not receive the Office action until May 1, 2003, more than two months after the mail date thereof, and provide copies of the docketing receipt stamped first page of the Office action as evidence thereof. Applicants' statement and evidence are acceptable and the period for reply will be adjusted accordingly.

Applicants' petition is **GRANTED**.

**The period for reply to the Office action mailed February 26, 2003, is hereby restarted as of applicants' date of receipt, May 1, 2003. The time period for reply remains as set therein.**

Should there be any questions regarding this decision, please contact William R. Dixon, Jr., by mail addressed to Director, Technology Center 1600, PO BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450, or by telephone at (703) 308-3824 or by facsimile transmission at (703) 305-7230.

  
John Doll

Director, Technology Center 1600